

Ports proves capacity to cater to cruise vessels

WITH the recent docking of two cruise ships, Pacific Jewel and Carnival Spirit, at the Port of Suva within an hour of each other, and more than 4,000 passengers and 1,000 crew members disembarking from the two vessels, Fiji Ports proved that it has the capacity to cater for such numbers.

“Prior to the visit by the two vessels, members of my staff and I met with the recently revived Suva City Cruise Ship Committee, a committee comprised of the Suva City Council, ships’ agents, nominated tour operators, representatives of the Police Department, Suva City business stakeholders, as well as ourselves,” said Captain Jeke Vakararawa Senior Port Facility Security Officer.



The Port of Suva is a general purpose port, requiring special attention to safety when cruise vessels call. Here the Fiji Police Band prepares to welcome passengers from the Carnival Spirit and the Pacific Jewel.

With an hour between arrival times, Captain Vakararawa had to complete the Declaration of Security document with the security officer of each vessel in turn before any passengers or crew could disembark. Each ship’s security officer also had to physically inspect the security and safety arrangements in place.

The Declaration of Security states that the port is safe to visit, in Suva’s case with a security Level One or normal, and outlines the duties of Ports and its Security Team, and those of the vessel and crew while in Port.

As the Port of Suva is a general purpose port, the security staff guided people to

the designated walkway areas that were cordoned off for everybody’s safety. Apart from passengers and crew from the cruise ships, these areas could only be accessed by properly accredited visitors, or those with a duty to perform, such as security staff or the ships’ agency. The tour bus and taxi operators were assigned pick-up and drop-off sites that were specific to each of the cruise ships.

“It was a very smooth and efficient operation,” said Captain Vakararawa. “Some of the passengers were returning to visit Fiji for the second or third time, and commented upon the smiling faces and the warmth of the meet-and-greet. But everything depends upon proper preparation.”

New developments at Lautoka and Vuda

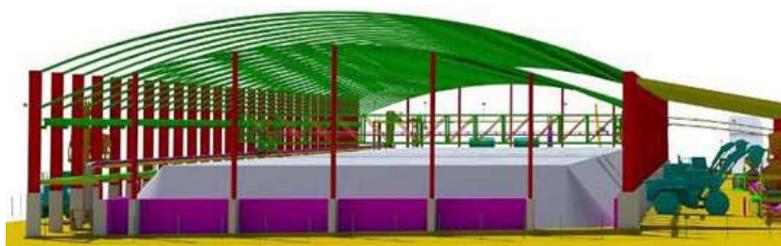


Workers prepare for access to the AMEX Resources Ltd development. (Photo courtesy AMEX).

THE construction of infrastructure beginning at Lautoka Port sees the proposed export to China of magnetite ore, mined from the Ba River Delta, come another step closer.

The construction by AMEX Resources Ltd on the land adjacent to, and leased from, the Port of Lautoka is in preparation for the export of at least one vessel load of ore every three weeks.

Port of Lautoka’s Acting



An artist’s impression of the development to take place on the land leased from the Port of Lautoka by AMEX Resources Ltd. (Image courtesy AMEX).

Harbour Master, Captain Penitiko Yauvoli, said that Amex Resources Ltd will help develop their ramping area, as well as contribute to the dredging of the harbour.

He said that this was just one of the recent developments taking place at the Ports of Lautoka and Vuda.

Gilontas, an Asian fishing company, has rented shed

space at Lautoka for a fish processing plant to supply both local and overseas markets, and at Vuda, the oil company Pacific Energy is preparing to begin construction of their own heavy oil pipeline inside the port boundary.

“All of these developments are good for Fiji Ports and Fiji as a whole,” said Captain Yauvoli.

World Maritime Day celebrated

THE annual celebration of World Maritime Day took place in Suva with Ports personnel and other stakeholders and organisations that have an interest in maritime activities participating in a march along Victoria Parade.

A maritime Expo held at the Civic Centre foreshore was also part of the celebration.

“The Expo was well attended by Government dignitaries, members of the public and school students. Fiji Ports took the opportunity to showcase some of the new merchandise now available, and distributed



The Honourable Prime Minister, Commodore Voreqe Bainimarama, was amongst the many visitors to the Fiji Ports marquee during the Expo. Here, the Prime Minister receives a gift bag from Fiji Ports Marketing & Customer Relations Officer, Ms Sharila Lazarus.

pamphlets, newsletters and brochures the many interested people who approached our

booth,” said Fiji Ports Marketing & Customer Relations Officer, Ms Sharila Lazarus.

Efficient Muaiwalu operations



Wharf attendants Vatilai Navunisaravi and Pene Erenio attaching a hose that allows metered water to be supplied to vessels that call at Muaiwalu Wharf.

ENSURING that efficient operations are carried out at Muaiwalu Wharves I and II is the task of Fiji Ports Supervisor Local Wharf, Marika Koroi, and his team of eight wharf attendants.

These responsibilities include ensuring that there is a berth available at the dockside for the incoming vessel, that water can be piped aboard the ship, that passengers disembark and embark safely, and that cargo is unloaded and loaded efficiently safely, and that rubbish is disposed of.

“If there are vessels arriving at a similar time, we consult with the Ship Masters and ask them to move their vessel to

accommodate the one coming in. This is made easier as we work with the ship owners on almost a daily basis,” said Mr Koroi.

Mr Koroi and his team work with close on 200 vessels a month at the two wharves. Each

month, on average, 135 fishing vessels arrive at Muaiwalu I to offload their catch and to take on fresh supplies. The regular passenger and cargo-carrying services to and from the outer islands visit Suva every two to three days, and account for an average of 40 vessels a month using the facilities at Muaiwalu II.

“These ships include conventional passenger as well as roll-on-roll-off (Ro-Ro) vessels, the latter carrying vehicles to and from the islands, and cargo to and from the islands averages around four to five thousand tonnes a month,” said Mr Koroi. “They provide an important link between the Suva and the islands of Vanua Levu, Taveuni, Kadavu, the Lau and Lomaiviti groups, and Rotuma Port.”

Software for FSHIL



FSHIL Works Manager, Lopeti Radravu and Senior Estimator, Navi Ratukalou discuss a project using the new Management Software.

WORKS Manager of Fiji Ships & Heavy Industry Ltd, Mr Lopeti Radravu, is using ‘Project Management’ software to streamline the analysis of any work that is carried out on any of the company’s slipways.

Mr Radravu said that the programme allows the Operational Team to work with the SMART objectives of being Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant and Timely.

When a vessel is booked for repair or maintenance, a meeting takes place at FSHIL between the Steel/Technical, Stores and Operations Teams, who estimate the materials and man-hours required to complete the work, based on the ship owner’s list of required work.

“I take all the information, and through the AIB (Activity in the Box) insert the data, including scope of works, the number of performers and team leader, man-hour allocation, material costs, early start time (ES), late start time (LS), early finish time (EF), late finish time (LFT), together with the project dollar value.”

This allows Mr Radravu to see the ‘Critical Path’ and so work towards the best possible way of completing the project without any over-runs avoiding difficulties, and knowing the ‘break even’ of the project at the click of a button.

“At the end of the day, our goal is profitability for our stakeholders. The project management software helps us achieve this through control, control, and control,” concluded Mr Radravu.

Introducing the new induction brochure

A new induction brochure is being produced that welcomes all new employees to FCPL.

“With the title of ‘Welcome Aboard’ the publication is a valuable document that all new employees will take away with them after their mandatory induction training,” explained Fiji Ports Training Officer Anare

Leweniqila.

“It will provide a handy, easily carried reference on the company’s policies such as employment and salaries or wages, leave entitlement, security, occupational health and safety, and code of conduct,” said Mr Leweniqila, who has worked to produce the brochure.

He reminded Fiji Ports staff

that the booklet is a guide only, and full details on all policies should always be checked with the Human Resources Department.



Fiji Ports assist others with compliance

“SHARING knowledge and experience is the Pacific Way,” explained Captain Jeke Vakararawa, Senior Port Facility Security Officer, who said that Fiji Ports takes “very seriously” the commitment to assist smaller island countries with security awareness.

Captain Jeke was referring to the two weeks spent at Fiji Ports Kiribati Ports Authority’s, Mr Aoti Teitabu, Ports Facility Security Officer and Mr Buretita Kaite, Senior Security Guard, who were updating their understanding of the requirements for compliance

with the International Ships and Ports Security (ISPS) Code.

Captain Jeke explained, “Hosting our neighbours and having the same level of awareness within the region helps facilitate the smooth transshipment of cargo, especially return cargo from smaller island countries to the country of destination via Fiji, through Fiji, in particular from the island nation to the international destination.”

Mr Teitabu, who has recently been promoted to his current position, said that he and Mr



(L-r) Aoti Teitabu, Port Facility Security Officer, Kiribati, during the practical component of training, with Jone Tawake, Assistant Port Facility Security Officer and Buretita Kaite, Senior Security Guard, both with Fiji Ports Security Department.

Kaite appreciated the assistance they had received while visiting Fiji Ports, as well as the

opportunity to update their knowledge that would help keep Kiribati ISPS compliant.



CCTV tightens security

The CCTV system allows monitoring of all departments and entrances.

WITH the installation of twenty-four closed circuit television cameras Fiji Ships & Heavy Industries Ltd (FSHIL) has tightened the company’s security measures.

The cameras are located at both the shipyard and the slipway. This allows for monitoring all departments, as well as the points of entry into both premises and departments.

Demonstrating the camera monitoring system is FSHIL Human Resources Officer Ms Makereta Taoi, who is also responsible in co-ordinating security arrangements for all company property and facilities.

Training News from FSHIL

In keeping with the company objective of keeping staff informed of Occupational Health and Safety issues and procedures, recent training sessions at Fiji Ships & Heavy Industries Ltd have included Fire Drill Evacuation procedures and First Aid.

Ms Makereta Taoi, FSHIL Human Resources Officer, said that as a result of the training conducted by the National Fire Authority, the Fire Wardens are aware of the importance of their role, and better acquainted with their duties.

“And most importantly, all staff

understand the evacuation procedures that could save their lives in the future,” said Ms Taoi. FSHIL has drawn up site-specific procedures and an evacuation plan.

“Similarly, the recent First Aid training conducted by the Red Cross has not only given FSHIL staff important first aid skills, but they also have an insight into



All tied up! Niko Kaitani (left), Kelera Dimaivalagi (3rd left) and Emeleyn Kasanibuli (right) practise their first aid skills on Shinal Nadan.

how prompt action can alleviate the immediate impact of an accident, or even save a life,” said Ms Taoi.

Essay competition winners

CONGRATULATIONS to the students of Rishikul, Indira Gandhi Memorial, Tacirua and Samabula Primary Schools who wrote the winning entries in the Fiji Ports Primary Schools Essay Competition.

“The prize winners demonstrated the important criteria of originality and creativity in their writing,” said Fiji Ports Marketing & Customer Relations Officer, Sharila Lazarus.

Twelve schools responded to the invitation made to the more than 50 primary schools in the Suva area, all of which received



Rishikul winners (l-r) Meleoni Fifita, Krishant Jeet and Aditi Prakash with Head Teacher Kisun Krishna and Ms Babita Kumar, Assistant Head Teacher.



Winners from Indhira Ghandi Memorial (standing l - r) Prathna Lal, Sheenal Shiwani, Daphnie Golman and Chiara Kinivuai. (Sitting l - r) Filimone Sosene and Dipshika Shayal.

posters and brochures as a starting point for the competition essays.

The first place winners of the three age-group categories, six to eight years, nine to eleven

and 12 to 13, each received a President pen and a cash prize of a \$100, \$150 and \$200 respectively, while all second and third place getters received a Fiji Ports hamper.

FSHIL apprenticeships for succession planning



Mr. Waisale Sovalawa of FNU School of Maritime Studies (right) with FSHIL apprentices (sitting l-r) Paulo Tuiqalau, Sakaraia Vunisuwai and Tevita Misidani. (Standing l-r) Apenisa Mataitoga, Paul Takala, Jojo Utuilakeba and Jolame Mateyawa.

As part of the Company's succession planning, Fiji Ships & Heavy Industries Ltd (FSHIL) has an apprenticeship programme that sees an annual budget of \$70,000 set aside for the training of a workforce that will be ready to take the place of employees reaching retirement age.

The Apprenticeship Programme, a five year course combining study at Fiji National University (FNU) School of Maritime Studies and work experience at FSHIL, began in 2010, with a total of 13

apprentices; ten shipwrights, two plumbers and one fitter-machinist.

GM FSHIL, Raneel Mudaliar said that while the ship repair industry was demanding that shipwright apprentices must first learn the art of ship building in order to understand the work involved in ship repair.

"Shipwrights go through the process of learning to design and build a vessel that complies with the maritime legislation for ships. They are very much like architects. They have to work with

the proposed vessel's primary function, area of operation and design elements. These elements include the ship's drawings, specifications, stability calculation, materials, and any other assessment required by the approving authority, which in Fiji is the Marine Safety Authority of Fiji (MSAF)," explained Mr Mudaliar.

He said that the design process not only includes the hull structure, but also the piping and fluid system, electrical wiring layout and system, and the layout of all navigational equipment.

Mr Mudaliar said that as well as aligning the shipwrights' apprenticeship with International Maritime Organisation standards, FNU, through the School of Maritime Studies, invites shipbuilding and ship repair stakeholders to be part of the Industrial Advisory Committee that makes recommendations to the School's Head and management team on the industrial-based syllabus.

As well as the time spent at FNU on academic work, the apprentices spend six months at a time on each of the different skills areas, such as timber, technical drawing, electrical, plumbing, fabricating.

"By the end of their apprenticeships, management will know what strengths each person has, and we will build on that. If one is good at estimation, if another's strength is fabrication, we will put them to work they are best suited," he said.

Migration has seen the original 13 apprentices reduced to nine.

Staff News

New Appointments:

Fiji Ports welcomes new recruits



Prashil Kumar, Accounts /Stock

Controller and Nemani Tabutabu and Jone Waqanivoivoi, Tower Controller Officers.

Welcome also to **Pita Sesara, Lautoka Pilotage Department,** and **Emosi Ugavule, Pilotage Department Suva,** who took up these positions after initial appointments as **Tower Controller Officers;** to **Asinate Tora, Administration/RRW** who joins the staff of the local wharf in **Lautoka;** to **Sekonaia Bulu,** who joins **Operators/RRW,** and to **Moses Sereinagata, Security Department/CCTV.**

Retirement:

Fiji Ports farewells and wishes **Luke Matanabua, Machine Operator/RRW, Handling Department,** who has retired after nearly 10 years with the company, all the best in the future.

Resignations:

The company also farewells and extends best wishes for their future undertakings to **Jashneel Prasad, Accounts Department, Stock Controller,** who leaves after five years, and **Waq Bauleka, General Manager**

Technical Services, who leaves after serving more than 20 years with Fiji Ports.



Fiji flag flies at Ports



With the construction of new flagpoles, the Fiji national flag can now be seen flying above both the North and South Gate entrances to the Kings Wharf in Suva, a part of the the signage refurbishment that has taken place at the wharf's gates.

Certified forklift drivers

Fiji Ports now has forklift operators certified to New Zealand standard to provide an improved and safer service at the Kings Wharf in Suva.

The successful operators were recently presented with their certificates by Fiji Ports CEO Vajira Piyasena who congratulated them upon the contribution they make to

increased productivity for the company.

Fiji Ports Training Officer Anare Leweniqila said that to meet certification standards, the forklift operators had to complete a five day course in theory, field training and assessment, "that will contribute to a reduction in potential damage to containers, cargo and machinery."



The successful forklift operators (standing l-r), Viliame Cama, Iliesa Qolidovu, Urakamata Rigamoto, Jope Vatu, Samuela Nagelevuki, Taniela Cataki, Aisake Dike and (sitting, far right) Matereti Waqa with (sitting, l-r) Fiji Ports Manager Mechanical Service & Special Project Isikeli Waqa, Anare Leweniqila Training Officer and Fiji Ports CEO Vajira Piyasena.